

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 CU-04 /119 W

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R 101645Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3495

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

CINCEUR FOR POLAD & OPS

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS, AEAGC-OCO, AEAGB-CI(SO)

CONFIDENTIAL BERLIN 966

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, WB, UK, GE

SUBJECT: ARREST OF BRITISH SUBJECT ON TRANSIT ROUTE

1. BRITISH MISSION HAS INFORMED US UK CITIZEN SUSAN BALLANTINE, 23, A STUDENT AND DAUGHTER OF BRITISH JOURNALIST, WAS ARRESTED JUNE 1 AT GDR AUTOBAHN CHECKPOINT DREWITZ ON EXFILTRATION CHARGE. AT TIME OF ARREST, MISS BALLANTINE WAS TRAVELLING BY AUTO FROM BERLIN TO HELSTEDT IN COMPANY OF US CITIZENS (NON-FORCES PERSONNL) SUSAN LASCHE AND JAMES MARTIN, THE DRIVER, WHO REPORTED THE INCIDENT TO BRITISH AUTHORITIES. LASCHE AND MARTIN WERE PERMITTED TO PROCEED, BUT LASCHE ELECTED TO RETURN TO WEST BERLIN. MISS BALLANTINE'S FIANCÉ, VOKER BENES, TRAINER OF EAST BERLIN BFC DYNAMO SOCCER CLUB, IS REPORTEDLY ALSO UNDER ARREST. BRITISH INFORM US THAT SEVERAL OF THEIR SOLDIERS PRVIOUSLY REPORTED MISS BALLANTINE ATTEMPTED TO RECRUIT THEM FOR

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EXFILTRATION ACTIVITIES.

2. ARREST WAS CONFIRMED TO BRITISH MISSION THROUGH
LAWYER CHANNEL ON JUNE 4, AND AFTER SEVERAL UNSUCCESSFUL
ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION, BRITISH EMBASSY EAST
BERLIN WAS INFORMED ON JUNE 6 BY NOTE FROM GDR MFA THAT
MISS BALLANTINE WAS IN CUSTODY. UK EMBASSY BONN
IS IN TOUCH WITH FRG MFA TO HAVE LATTER TAKE UP CASE
WITH GDR IN TRANSIT TRAFFIC COMMISSION AS VIOLATION OF
TRANSIT AGREEMENT.

3. USCOB CONCURS.KLEIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: powellba2
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BERLIN00966
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740148-1194
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740661/aaaacaep.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: powellba2
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by smithrj>; APPROVED <08 JUN 2005 by powellba2>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARREST OF BRITISH SUBJECT ON TRANSIT ROUTE
TAGS: PGOV, WB, UK, GC, (BALLANTINE, SUSAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005